



Alva M. Murdock . . . Was first settler in Duchesne.

Nevada, Utah Pioneer, 87, Dies in S. L.

† Nov 1944

Alva M. Murdock, 87, pioneer stockman and former resident of Duchesne county, died Wednesday at 7:45 a. m. at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Oscar A. Kirkham, 1345 Normandie circle, following an operation.

He was born in Carson valley, Nev., April 26, 1857, a son of Joseph Stacey and Elizabeth Hunter Murdock. His family was living in Nevada to assist in colonizing the valley at the request of Brigham Young. They later returned to Utah and made their home in American Fork, and subsequently moved to Heber.

Moved to Provo

They later returned to St. Thomas, Nev., to assist in making that country habitable, and then moved to Provo where Mr. Murdock aided his father in carrying the semi-weekly mail from Provo to Echo, via Heber and Kamas.

On June 24, 1877, he married Josephine Nicol, in Salt Lake City, and they made their home in Heber, where he went into the lumber business. In 1905, the family moved to Duchesne, the first family to settle there.

Mr. Murdock established a mercantile business and later purchased a ranch on Strawberry river. He was awarded a mail contract, and carried mail from Colton to Duchesne.

Married Again

Mrs. Murdock died in 1913 in Salt Lake City, and he married Ivy Stephens Liddel in 1915. At one time mayor of Duchesne, he also was bishop of Duchesne LDS ward.

Survivors include the widow; five daughters, Mrs. Kirkham, Salt Lake City; Mrs. Orson Ryan, Logan; Mrs. R. S. Lausty, Duchesne; Mrs. R. W. Kranpa, Oakland, Cal.; Mrs. J. E. Hansen, Helper; three sons, Grant Murdock, Duchesne; Ralph E. Murdock, Crestone, Colo., and Willard S. Murdock, Tex.; 36 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday at 2:30 p. m. in Heber LDS tabernacle.

Friends may call at Olpin mortuary in Heber and at the home of Andrew Murdock, Heber, prior to services. Burial will be in Heber.